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Sent: Friday, November 16, 2018 11:56 AM
To: Dipierro, Amy <ADipierro@palmspri.gannett.com>
Cc: TWalker@cathedralcity.gov; Lena Wade <Wade@sbemp.com>
Subject: Re: Press inquiry re: ERICA

Official statement from ERICA and our TAC chair.

The Eastern Riverside County Interoperable Communications Authority ("ERICA") is a joint powers authority which owns and operates the local law enforcement's interoperable communications system on behalf of its member agencies. ERICA's encrypted communications channels seek to promote the safety of first responders and the public by limiting the dissemination of in-progress activities during high-risk events.

Although access was granted nearly eight years ago, ERICA's obligation to constantly review our policies to ensure that we are compliant with existing law necessitated this change. In an effort to further protect the private, confidential information of individuals, such as victims of violent crimes, minors, and others, and improve the safety of law enforcement officers and members of the public, the Board of ERICA has taken action to limit access to ERICA's encrypted channels. Access to encrypted channels shall be limited to law enforcement and other qualified personnel. This Board action is in compliance with the requirements of California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System ("CLETS"), the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services ("CJIS"), the California Public Records Act ("CPRA"), the California Penal Code, etc.

For purposes of CLETS, "Only authorized law enforcement, criminal justice personnel or their lawfully authorized designees may [have access to CLETS]. Any information from the CLETS is confidential and for official use only. Access is defined as the ability to hear or view any information provided through the CLETS; Accessing and/or releasing information from the CLETS for non-law enforcement purposes is prohibited, unless otherwise mandated, and is subject to administrative action and/or criminal prosecution. For more information, please review CLETS Policies, Practices and Procedures, section 1.6.4.

While we recognize the media's critical role in gathering information and reporting on news events impacting our communities, ERICA is committed to the protecting the safety of the public and promoting and protecting the privacy rights of individuals, as enumerated in Article 1 of the California Constitution, the CPRA, the Information Privacy Act of 1977, and other applicable federal and state laws. Local government agencies are required to comply with CPRA and disclose non-exempt information. ERICA's policy restricting encrypted communication is in

compliance with the laws, regulations and policies mentioned above. Please feel free to contact the local law enforcement agencies regarding access of information that may be released expeditiously.

Chief Travis Walker

ERICA Chairman, Technical Advisory Committee

Kari Mendoza

Sent from my iPad